20 YEARS! 1987-2007

C!N

1045

Army of Darkness: From the Ashes

Back from Marvel Zombie-Land with Tales to Ash-tonish

Ashley Williams is wrapping up a long, strange trip to Marvel Zombieland in the ***Marvel Zombies Vs. Army of Darkness*** miniseries. When he returns home, though, he's going to discover that his world has taken some rather unpleasant turns in his absence.

Ash's return will be the focus of the relaunched ***Army of Darkness*** ongoing series by writer *James Kuhoric* and artist *Fernando Blanco*. So what sort of problems await the fresh-from-zombie-vacation Ash? Kuhoric passes that question along to Ash, who supplies his own eloquent response: "Vacation? Is that what you call tromping around a world of undead long john wearin' slack jawed fancy pants 'heroic' types with bad taste and worse personal hygiene? Yeah, well besides the handful of super-sized babe-a-licious muffin treats, there wasn't anything but zombies and spandex left in that world so I hit the inter-dimensional bricks back to good old Detroit, Michigan. Unfortunately…while Ash was away the Deadites were left out to play. And they done made a bigger mess outta the world than Dubbya did in two terms."

"Uh…yeah, thanks, Ash," Kuhoric continued. "Guess you can tell how our favorite Chosen One feels about the situation. Sorry about that!...

"While Ash was off trying to save our favorite super heroes from an intergalactic brain munching disease the world in the ***AOD*** universe was getting an extreme makeover courtesy of the Deadites and Evil Ash Prime. Ever wonder what would happen if the Chosen One was removed from the timeline? The Deadites were left to do what they do best, terrorize, maim, and cause havoc. They remade the world in their image and filled it with a global army of the dead, possessed Deadites, and a mutant population stranger than the disco strutting scene in ***Spider-Man 3***.

"Now Ash is back and ready to rumble with the freaks that wrecked the world. He's here to kick ass and chew bubblegum. Gum's in short supply, so he'll be making up the difference with extra ass kicking."

Just how extensive is the Deadite conquest? Is there any hopes of restoring the status quo, or is Ash now the stranger in a horribly strange land? "Look, the world is screwed plain and simple. There is nothing that any one man can do to return things to the way they were. But Ash *isn't* just any one man. If anyone could turn the clock back, it'd be him. But let me warn you now…Detroit Dead City isn't going anywhere soon. All the Chosen mojo that Ash has can't change that. Before he can do anything, he has to fulfill a strange voodoo prophecy and find the four exceptional mutants – the Seer, Changed Man, Harlot, and the Soldier. With his new allies in tow he'll have to fight his way through a city of the dead and into the heart of Deadite possessed Detroit to face the ultimate incarnation of Evil Ash Prime.

"If he can survive that…the Necronomicon awaits. But be warned, the book doesn't just foretell the future…apparently it is actually writing it and directly influencing our hero's efforts to right humanity's sinking ship. He's got a world of evil against him and only a boomstick and chainsaw to help right the wrongs. I don't know about you, but I'm putting my money on Ash."

Will his experiences in the Zombieverse have any lingering aftereffects? "The Marvel Zombies crossover has effectively solidified a theme we've been seeing develop in Ash's world over the past year," Kuhoric said He now realizes that there are other horrors in the world besides the Deadites out there terrorizing common folks and Sunday S-Mart shoppers. Though Ash will always be the reluctant everyman hero, this series will open up new opportunities for him to face monsters, creatures, and beasties from every dark corner of the globe. But first he has to deal with his old nemeses the Deadites in all their swallow your soul glory. See the first thing Evil Ash Prime did when he was freed was to destroy the mirror prison that kept the Deadites separated from vulnerable human race. So now Ash doesn't just have to face the handful of blighted spirits that are tied to this world through some supernatural anchor, he's got to deal with all of the Deadites at once. Good luck, Ash…you're gonna need it!"

This sounds like an even grimmer story arc than the usual; will there still be room for the humorous elements that have defined Ash thus far? "The story *is* a bit dark and bizarre," Kuhoric said. "It's a brave new world for Ash and he has to find a way to cope with the devastation that has been wrought. Nothing is what it seems now—and needless to say he won't be relaxing with a brew in front of the tube anytime soon. But even in the midst of the mind blowing freak-show, Ash is Ash. The one liners and slapstick misadventure is just part of him. He'll be Ash to the bitter end…which might be sooner than later if he isn't careful."

Publisher *Nick Barrucci* explained why Dynamite is relaunching the series with a new first issue rather than picking up with the old numbering. "A couple of reasons, most all of them relating to the Marvel Zombies cross-over. We ended our ongoing ***AOD*** series to allow fans and retailers to focus on the cross-over (which they did, we actually saw numbers go up towards the end of the run—thanks!) and now, when planning the come-back, it seems more natural to give new fans and retailers a #1 to support, rather than a #14…"

Now that Ash is back in his own book, "we plan to continue it as an ongoing," Barrucci said, adding that "we *do* have a few mini-series events in store for Ashley J. Williams, including a *most* unique cross-over…"

Barrucci is optimistic that the scheduling lags that plagued Ash's earlier series are a thing of the past. "*Fernando Blanco* actually came on board with issues twelve and thirteen of the last ***AOD*** series to help us get those issues out, and he's proven to be a big help on this new series. We have a better handle on the ***AOD*** schedule—and we actually had time during the ***Zombies*** crossover to get ahead of schedule."

"After doing ***Army of Darkness #s 12 & 13***, I was discussing with Dynamite what my next project would be and doing character sketches for a number of projects, until one day they asked me if I wanted to illustrate the new ***Army of Darkness*** series" Blanco added. "I guess people liked my work on issues twelve and thirteen! For me, it was great because I was already familiar with the character and his environment, and everyone knew what sort of art I could deliver."

Blanco is quite pleased to be tapped as the series illustrator. "I'm enjoying this book big time. A project like this is the dream of every artist and I hope the readers agree. There is action, gore, zombies, deadites, ***Mad Max***-style car chases with road punks and impossible vehicles, mutants, sexy girls with very small clothing to cover big 'anatomical characteristics' that tend to be quite difficult to cover... It's the 'loudest' series you can find in the market right now, and one of the loudest that has ever existed. And even better, it has Ash!"

While American readers may be more familiar with Blanco's work as an inker, he comes to ***Army of Darkness*** with quite a pencilling resumé. "Before my time as an inker, I did a couple of graphic novels and even a superhero book for France. I have never really considered myself an inker—in fact, on the last issues I did before working for Dynamite, I pencilled some pages for ***Manhunter***.

"Inking was a temporary thing, and it's not a part of my plans to go back to it again—with the exception, of course, of inking myself on ***AoD*** and my other works. It's not that I regret it or anything like that, of course—I've learned a lot inking artists like *David Lopez*, *Jesus Saiz*, or *Javier Pina*, but from now on it's time to walk my own path, and I sincerely think that I can offer a lot more as a full illustrator than I can as an inker."

Will Kuhoric and Blanco remain with the book for the foreseeable future, or will Dynamite use a rotating creative roster? "Time will tell," Barrucci replied, "but fans have been receptive to James' take on ***AOD***, and reaction to Fernando on issues twelve and thirteen were very positive and when fans see what these two have put together for this new series, I think we'd be hard-pressed not to give them more of this fantastic creative team."

Another member of the creative team is cover artist *Arthur Suydam*, whose zombified covers for ***Marvel Zombies*** have propelled him into the spotlight. Is Arthur on board for the duration, or is his first issue cover just a special one-time thing? "Arthur just turned in his fifth cover for ***Army of Darkness***, and he *loves* drawing the undead—and the last time I checked, the Deadites and Necronomicon are still kicking up plenty of the undead for him to play with. We are very fortunate that Arthur is able to fit us into his increasingly busy schedule."

So what's in the future for Ash? "Ash is focused on getting things back to the way they were," Kuhoric said. "He's been chasing that dream since his first trip to the old cabin. The problem is that he has no idea how to do that. All he knows for sure is that the Necronomicon is the key to fixing the holy hell of a mess the Deadites made while he was gone. If he can find a way to deal with the damage they caused maybe he can use the damned book to fix things. But first he's got to complete the prophecy and get through the army of the dead. And oh yeah, Ash has to face the ultimate incarnation of Evil Ash to save Sugarbaby and Sheila. It's going to be one hell of a ride."

Army of Darkness #1: From the Ashes #1, a $3.50 comic, is scheduled for mid-August release; the book will be offered with two covers—one by *Arthur Suydam* and an alternate cover by ***Marvel Zombies Vs. Army of Darkness*** illustrator *Fabiano Neves*.

by Cliff Biggers

Courtesy your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!

CSNformation

•Could the cancelled CW series ***Veronica Mars*** be returning as a comic book? Series creator *Rob Thomas* has revealed that he's talking with DC about doing Season Four as a comic book original series (if it's good enough for ***Buffy*** and ***Star Trek***, then it's plenty good for the cute teen detective!).

•***The Boys #7***, the first issue from Dynamite Entertainment, has entirely sold out, in spite of a hefty overprinting—and the trade paperback reprinting the first six issues is selling through much faster than anticipated, too. Could be the 1:4 surprise variant cover generated some unanticipated multiple-copy sales... or it could be that all the buzz around this irreverent, pushing-the-envelope series by *Garth Ennis & Darick Robertson* intrigued a lot of new readers! "When many folks were speculating our demise upon the cancellation, our numbers actually went up. Thank you to each and every one of you that vocally supported and waited for ***The Boys*** to return," Robertson said. "And thank you to DC Comics for being so professional and cooperating to create this expedient return to a monthly schedule. Of course, without the enthusiastic hard work of *Nick Barrucci* and the Dynamite staff, none of this would have happened..." No second printing of #7 has been scheduled so far, but it's being discussed—meanwhile, plans are already underway to send the trade back to press.

•Marvel editor *Andy Schmidt* is leaving his position at Marvel—but he's *not* taking is talents to another publisher. Instead, the ***X-Factor*** and ***Annihilation*** editor is venturing into freelance writing, so he's not leaving comics. He still has one big editorial project forthcoming from Marvel, though—a miniseries "that I've been working on for two years now with *David Morrell*, the creator of ***Rambo***," Schmidt told ***Comic Shop Newsarama's*** *Matt Brady*. "I've loved working with him and when it hits the stands, it'll explode. This particular project has been a labor of love for me... unfortunately I can't say anymore because it hasn't officially been announced yet."

•Seems like someone forgot to tell Morrell to keep the secret, though. On his website, *David Morrell* revealed that "I'll be at Comic-Con to talk about my upcoming six-part ***Captain America*** comic book series. The official debut date is September 5. Issue #2 will appear in the middle of the month. The third issue will appear at the start of October..." Marvel has released no details, but considering Captain America's current state of *morte*, it's pretty likely that the miniseries is set outside of current continuity.

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Comic Shop Newsarama

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•***Stephen King's The Dark Tower—The Gunslinger #4*** has sold through its first printing, and a second edition is already in the works, featuring a new cover by *Billy Tan*.

•Even before the second ***Fantastic Four*** film hit theaters, ***Silver Surfer: Requiem #1*** was a sellout. Currently, Marvel has no plans to reprint the first issue of the *J. Michael Straczynski-Esad Ribic* limited series.

•Artist *Tom Derenick* has signed an exclusive with DC Comics. What'll he be working on? "Well Shadowpact's my regular gig," Derenick told *Matt Brady*. "I've been told it's good for a while at least and I enjoy drawing it quite a bit. *Bill Willingham* tests my abilities with just about every issue. Aside from that I help out where I'm needed. I just did issue #47 of ***Countdown*** and I did some pages for the ***Sinestro Corps*** one shot as a buffer for *Ethan Van Sciver*. I've seen his pages by the way and Ethan has knocked it out of the park with this. After that I go where I'm needed."

•Bad news for fans of Marvel's ***Ultimate Annuals:*** after briefly toying with the idea of featuring a story arc that would run through all the annuals this year, Marvel decided instead to forego the extra-length books for 2007... but they may return in 2008.

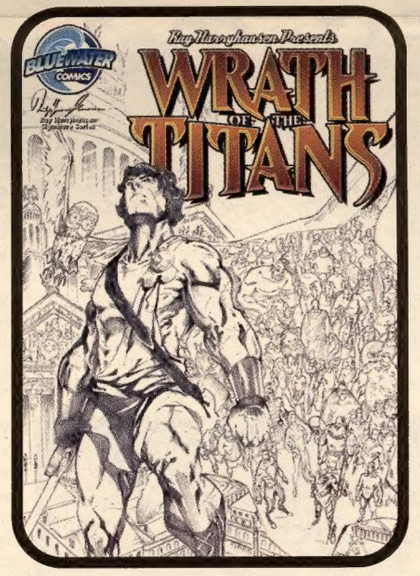
•*Dan Brereton* is supplying the painted cover art for the variant edition of the ***Amazing Fantasy Omnibus***.

•Lotsa covers forthcoming for Marvel's relaunch of ***Thor***. In addition to the already-announced regular cover and the incentive variant cover, Marvel has tapped *Arthur Suydam* to supply a Zombie Variant ***Thor #1*** (available in whatever quantities retailers would like to order) and a 1:10 incentive *non*-Zombie version of the same painting. (If you're keeping count, that's four different covers... apparently those Asgardians do everything in a big way!)

•In celebration of their twenty-fifth anniversary, Diamond Comics is working with Marvel to offer a black and white sketch variant edition of ***World War Hulk #1***. Stores got one advance copy in mid-June; additional copies should be in stores at about the same time as this issue of ***CSN***.

•And that's not the only variant that Diamond created to commemorate a quarter century of comics distribution; in conjunction with DC, they've created a 5000-copy variant cover edition of ***52 Week 52***, available on a one-per-store basis. Completists, start your hunt now!

•Two weeks ago, ***CSN*** told you that a fifth edition of the ***Marvel Zombies*** hardcover was forthcoming, with a new *Arthur Suydam* zombified cover. Now we can reveal that the image getting the zombie treatment is a book no one expected: ***Mary Jane #2***, the all-ages book focusing on the high school years of Peter Parker's wife-to-be.



•Bluewater Productions sold out of their first two releases. ***Ray Harryhausen Presents Wrath of the Titans #1*** will see a second printing with an all-new pencil sketch cover by *Nadir Balan;* however, ***VSS #1***, the sexy adventure series by *Darren G. Davis, Terrance Greip, & Nadir Balan*, is *not* scheduled to see a second printing.

Endangered Creators

Marvel has revealed the creative lineup for the first five installments of the mutant saga that'll be running in backup tales through many of the X-titles this summer, picking up where the ***X-Men: Endangered Species*** introductory oneshot leaves off. The bonus story creative teams include:

•Part one, in ***X-Men #200:*** *Mike Carey & Scot Eaton* (6/27)

•Part two, in ***Uncanny X-Men #488:*** *Mike Carey & Mark Bagley* (7/4)

•Part three, in ***X-Factor # 21:*** *Mike Carey & Mark Bagley* (7/11)

•Part four, in ***New X-Men #40:*** *Christopher Yost & Scot Eaton* (7/18)

•Part five, in ***X-Men #201:*** *Christopher Yost & Scot Eaton* (7/25)

DC Books 'Em in December

A couple of weeks ago, ***CSN*** told you what DC has in the collected edition pipeline for October and November—and now the company has revealed what's in the works for the final month of 2007! December releases include:

DCU

•***The All-New Atom: Future/Past***, collecting ***The All-New Atom #s 7-11***

•***Batman/Superman: Saga of the Super Sons***, a collection of memorable *Bob Haney* Silver Age tales that originally appeared in ***World's Finest #s 215, 216, 221, 222, 224, 228, 231, 233, & 238***

•***The Brave & the Bold Volume One: Lords of Luck***, a hardcover collecting the first six issues of the *Mark Waid-George Pérez-Bob Wiacek* team-up series

•***DCU: World War III***, collecting ***52 Week 50*** and the four ***World War III*** issues that expand on the war with Black Adam

•***The Flash: The Fastest Man Alive—Full Throttle***, collecting ***#s 7-14*** and the Flash tale from ***DC Infinite Holiday Special #1***

•***The Legion of Super-Heroes: An Eye for An Eye***, collecting the first six issues of the *Paul Levitz-Keith Giffen* series

•***Showcase Presents Jonah Hex Volume Two***, featuring 528 pages of black and white Western adventures from ***Jonah Hex #s 1-22*** and ***Weird Western Tales #s 34-38***

•***Showcase Presents Teen Titans Volume Two***, collecting the Silver Age ***Teen Titans #s 19-36***, ***Brave & Bold #s 83 & 94***, and ***World's Finest #205***, featuring work by such comics legends as *Bob Haney, Marv Wolfman, Bob Kanigher, Neal Adams, Gil Kane, Nick Cardy, Carmine Infantino, Jim Aparo, & Wally Wood*

•***The Spectre: Tales of the Unexpected***, collecting the *David Lapham* tales from the ***TotU*** miniseries

•***The Spirit Archives Volume 23***, collecting *Will Eisner* Spirit tales from July 1st, 1950, through December 30th, 1951

•***Superman: Camelot Falls Volume Two***, collecting ***Superman #s 662-664 & 667-668;***

•***Superman: Kryptonite***, a hardcover collection of *Darwyn Cooke & Tim Sale's* ***Superman Confidential #s 1-6***

•***Tales of the Batman: Tim Sale***, a hardcover collection of Sale-illustrated tales from ***Legends of the Dark Knight #s 32-34***, ***Shadow of the Bat #s 7-9***, and other pieces

•***Tales of the Multiverse: Batman—Vampire***, collecting the *Doug Moench-Kelley Jones-John Beatty* graphic novels ***Batman & Dracula: Red Rain***, ***Batman: Crimson Mist***, *and* ***Batman: Bloodstorm***

•***Wonder Woman: Amazons Attack***, collecting the six-issue limited series

Vertigo

•***Hellblazer: Bloodlines***, collecting *Garth Ennis's* ***Hellblazer #s 47-50, 52-55, & 59-61***

•***Loveless Volume Three: Blackwater falls***, collecting ***Loveless #s 13-20***

WildStorm

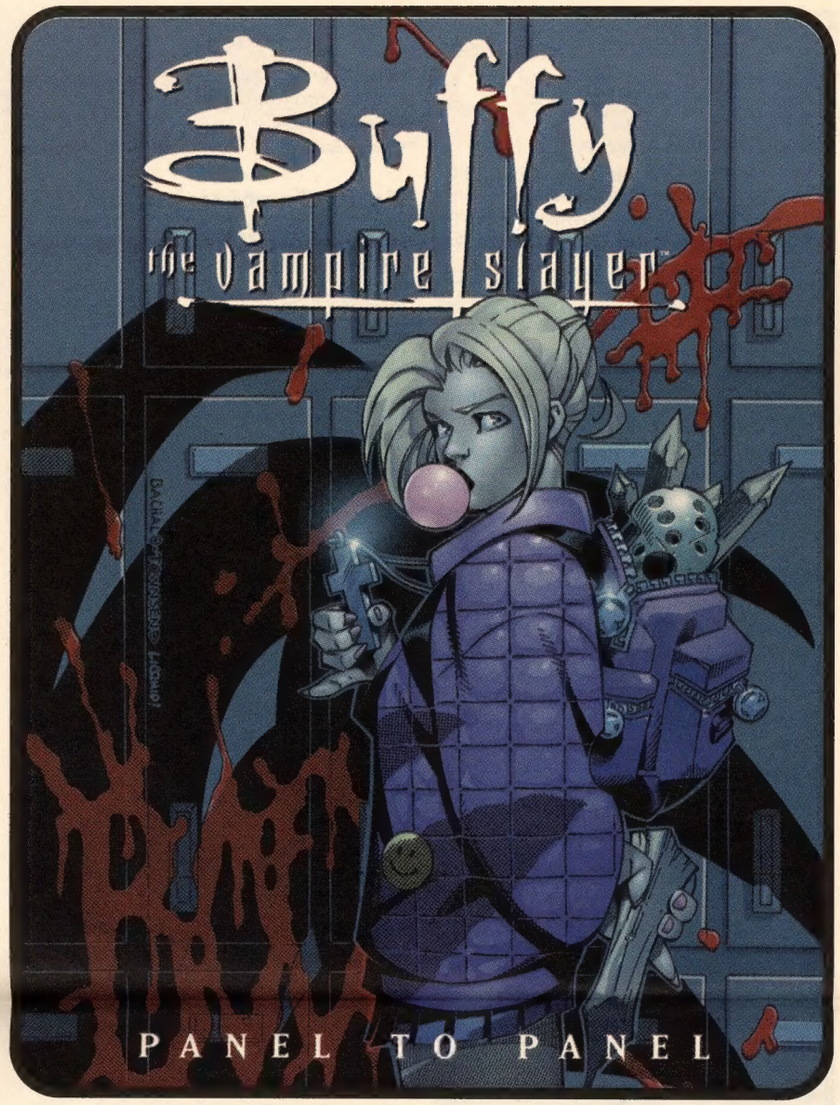
- ***Danger Girls: Body Shots***, collecting the *Andy Hartnell-Nick Bradshaw* miniseries
- ***Welcome to Tranquility Volume One***, collecting the first six issues of the *Gail Simone-Neil Googe* series

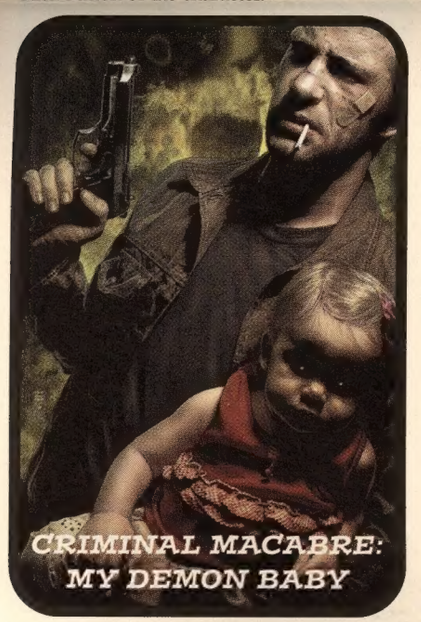
Coming Comics—Dark Horse in September

The second Season Eight story arc kicks off in ***Buffy the Vampire Slayer #6***—and über-writer *Brian K. Vaughan* (who proved he could write teevee as well as comics with his work on ***Lost***) does the honors, joining artist *Georges Jeanty* for this storyline that focuses on Faith. So what's she been up to? Oh, the usual—infiltration, assassination, and nonstop Cleveland. But now she has a chance to shake up her predictable life—if Giles' specialized training doesn't make her want to end it first. (And all you ***Buffy*** purists, don't fret: *Joss Whedon* is still on board as executive producer, providing the overall direction for this entire series.)

In ***Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Panel to Panel***, Dark Horse takes a look back at some of the most striking art presented in their many ***Buffy*** projects. *Chris Bachalo, J. Scott Campbell, Jeff Matsuda, Mike Mignola, Terry Moore, Eric Powell, Tim Sale, Ryan Sook*—these are just a few of the illustrators featured in this 192-page trade paperback.

Dark Horse continues its ***Classic Comic Book Characters*** syroco-styled statue line with their eighth offering, ***Grendel***. This rough-hewn sculpt of *Matt Wagner's* famous hero is limited to 550 copies and is packaged in a custom-tooled, full-color, litho-printed tin box. Also included is a small booklet about each character and a vintage-style pin-back button of the character.





Cal McDonald is back in action in ***Criminal Macabre: My Demon Baby***, a four-parter by *Steve Niles & Nick Stakal*. Last time we saw Cal, he and Mo'Lock had just witnessed the vile, horrifying transformation of Cal's lovely ex, Sabrina Lynch, into a minion of the vampire Nosferatu. This time out, Mo'Lock finds him just in time to lure him off the filthy couch in an abandoned house with an offer he can't refuse—either he gets up and takes a new case, or Mo'Lock will kill him before the drugs can. And what a case it is: Devil worshippers in sunny SoCal are doing their best to bring Satan into the world—and by the looks of things, Cal's already too late.

Eric Powell presents his first original ***Goon*** graphic novel in ***The Goon: Chinatown***, a 128-page tale that picks up on long-running storylines from the acclaimed bimonthly series. This book explores the Goon's formative backstory of love, loss, and extortion, all told Powell-style.

Groo is back in ***Groo: Hell on Earth*** . . . and oddly enough, the barbarian buffoon's return may not be the biggest disaster looming over the world. It seems to be getting hotter everywhere . . . that is, in those places where it isn't getting colder than ever before. The usual suspects—*Sergio Aragonés & Mark Evanier* —bring Groo back in celebration of his twenty-fifth anniversary in the kickoff issue of this four-part series.

Harlan Ellison watches movies just like the rest of us—but unlike most everyone else, Ellison uses these experiences as a stepping-stone for essays, observations, and criticisms. Readers can enjoy over fifty of Ellison's film-focused pieces in ***Harlan Ellison's Watching***, a prose trade paperback that also features an introduction by another well-known film guy, *Leonard Maltin*.

Dark Horse continues its Qee line with the 1500-copy limited edition ***Hellboy 8" Qee***. Only 1,500 will be sold worldwide, making this an instant collectible... but if you want a version that's even *more* limited and *more* collectible, then you'll need to track down the *Tara McPherson* ***Hellboy 8" Qee Variant***, which is limited to 450 copies.

Dark Horse kicks off its line of ***ElfQuest*** sculptures with the ***ElfQuest Bust: Cutter***, the first in a trio of busts featuring the most popular characters from *Wendy & Richard Pini's* long-running fantasy epic. There'll only be 1500 of these pieces, so grab one while you have the chance!

No one crossed sword and sorcery with S&M quite like *John Norman*—and this fall, his distinctive tales of Tarl Cabot, a human outcast on the distant world of Gor, return in ***John Norman's Gor Omnibus Volume One***, a 768-page compendium that includes the first three books in this best-selling series.

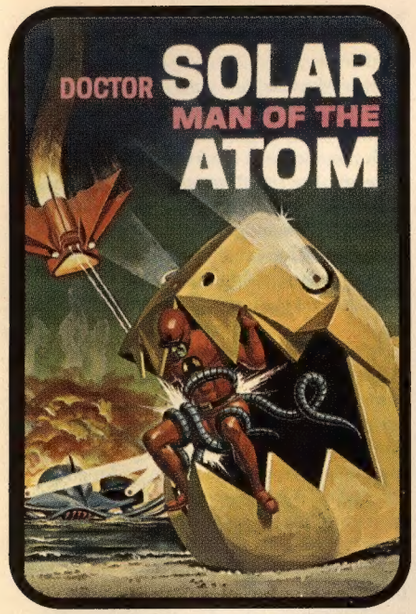
For a half-century now, *LeRoy Neiman* has illustrated the sexy 12" tall Femlin in the pages if *Hugh Hefner's* ***Playboy***—and now Dark Horse is celebrating fifty years of the sexy, mischievous, scantily-clad ***Playboy*** icon in ***LeRoy Neiman: Femlin***, a 186-page hardcover.

Mike Mignola joins with artist *Jason Armstrong* to bring ***Hellboy*** supporting cast member Lobster Johnson into the spotlight with the release of the five-issue ***Lobster Johnson: The Iron Prometheus*** miniseries. As America hovers on the brink of World War II, the Lobster and his allies must race against the clock as they fight their way through cannibals, yetis, and the machinations of a mysterious villain bent on fulfilling a deadly prophecy.

My Chemical Romance main-man *Gerard Way* continues his dark fantasy saga in ***The Umbrella Academy: Apocalypse Suite #1***, featuring art by *Gabriel Ba*. Once, the Umbrella Academy was unstoppable. Under the tutelage of their guardian and mentor, Dr. Reginald Hargreeves, its members spent their childhoods fighting evil and honing their extraordinary gifts... until something went terribly wrong. Now, nine years later, the estranged members of the Umbrella Academy are reunited by the death of the only parent they've ever known and the rise of a new and terrible threat. Will they be able to overcome their history for long enough to save the world—one more time?

Dark Horse collected editions include:

- ***Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Long Way Home***, collecting the first four-part arc along with the standalone ***Buffy the Vampire Slayer #5***;
- ***Chronicles of Conan Volume Thirteen: Whispering Shadows & Other Stories***, presenting state-of-the-art-recolored versions of Marvel's ***Conan the Barbarian #s 92 & 101-108***;
- ***Criminal Macabre: The Complete Cal McDonald Stories***, a hefty 576-page compendium of the prose adventures of *Steve Niles'* occult detective;



•***Doctor Solar, Man of the Atom Archives Volume Four,*** a 240-page full-color hardcover that reprints Gold Key's ***Solar #s 23-39*** by *Paul S. Newman & Frank Bolle,* along with his guest appearance from ***The Occult Files of Dr. Spektor #14;***

•***The Escapists,*** a hardcover collection of *Brian K. Vaughan's Michael Chabon*-inspired tale of comic creators hoping to revitalize a Golden Age comic book hero for today's audience;

•***The Secret,*** collecting the *Mike Richardson-Jason Shawn Alexander* miniseries;

•***Serenity: Those Left Behind,*** a hardcover edition of the 2006 *Joss Whedon-Brett Matthews-Will Conrad* limited series, complete with a new cover by *Adam Hughes* and over a dozen behind-the-scenes pages produced especially for this edition;

•***Star Wars: 30th Anniversary Collection Volume Nine—Boba Fett: Death, Lies, & Treachery,*** a hardcover reprinting of the hard-to-find collection; and

•***Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith Photo Comic,*** a fumetti version of the film that chronicled Anakin's transformation into Darth Vader.

Harvey Award Nominees Announced

The Executive Committee of the Harvey Awards and the Baltimore Comic-Con have announced the 2007 nominees, chosen exclusively by comic book creators. The nominees include:

Best Writer

•*Ed Brubaker* (***Daredevil,*** Marvel)
•*Grant Morrison* (***All Star Superman,*** DC)
•*Steve Murphy* (***Umbra,*** Image)
•*Don Rosa* (***Uncle Scrooge,*** Gemstone)
•*William Van Horn* (***Walt Disney's Comics & Stories,*** Gemstone)
•*Brian K. Vaughan* (***Y—The Last Man,*** DC/Vertigo)

Best Artist

•*Brian Fies* (***Mom's Cancer,*** Abrams)
•*Renee French* (***The Ticking,*** Top Shelf)
•*Stuart Immonen* (***Nextwave,*** Marvel)
•*Frank Quitely* (***All Star Superman,*** DC)
•*Don Rosa* (***Uncle Scrooge,*** Gemstone)
•*William Van Horn* (***Walt Disney's Comics & Stories,*** Gemstone)

Best Cartoonist

•*Jaime Hernandez* (***Love & Rockets,*** Fantagraphics)
•*Kevin Huizenga* (***Curses,*** Drawn & Quarterly)
•*Bryan Lee O'Malley* (***Scott Pilgrim & The Infinite Sadness,*** Oni)
•*Don Piraro* (***Bizarro,*** King Features)
•*Don Rosa* (***Uncle Scrooge,*** Gemstone)
•*William Van Horn* (***Walt Disney Comics & Stories,*** Gemstone)

Best Letterer

•*Jon Babcock* (***Uncle Scrooge,*** Gemstone)
•*Chris Eliopoulos* (***Franklin Richards,*** Marvel)
•*Hope Larson* (***Gray Horses,*** Oni)
•*Troy Peteri* (***Necromancer,*** Marvel)
•*Stan Sakai* (***Usagi Yojimbo,*** Dark Horse)
•*Willie Schubert* (***Walt Disney's Comics & Stories,*** Gemstone)

Best Inker

•*Jaime Hernandez* (***Love & Rockets,*** Fantagraphics)
•*Ryan Kelly* (***Local,*** Oni)
•*Steve Leialoha* (***Fables,*** DC/Vertigo)
•*Danny Miki* (***Eternals,*** Marvel)
•*Joe Weems* (***Hunter-Killer,*** Image)

Best Colorist

•*Susan Daigle-Leach* (***Walt Disney's Comics & Stories,*** Gemstone)
•*Steve Firchow* (***Hunter-Killer,*** Image)
•*Jamison Services* (***Will Eisner's the Spirit Volume 19,*** DC)
•*Lark Pein* (***American Born Chinese,*** First Second)
•*Scott Rockwell* (***Uncle Scrooge,*** Gemstone)

Best Cover Artist

•*John Cassaday* (***Astonishing X-Men,*** Marvel)
•*James Jean* (***Fables,*** DC/Vertigo)
•*J.G. Jones* (***52,*** DC)
•*Don Rosa* (***Uncle Scrooge,*** Gemstone)
•*Marc Silvestri* (***Hunter-Killer,*** Image)

Best New Talent

•*Lilli Carré* (***Tales of Woodsman Pete,*** Top Shelf)
•*Brian Fies* (***Mom's Cancer,*** Abrams)
•*Alexa Kitchen* (***Drawing Comics Is Easy (Except When It's Hard,*** DKP)
•*Matthew Loux* (***Sidescrollers,*** Oni)
•*Stjepan Sejic* (***Witchblade,*** Image)

Best New Series

•***52*** (DC)
•***Civil War*** (Marvel)
•***Necromancer*** (Image)
•***The Spirit*** (DC)
•***Wasteland*** (Oni)

Best Continuing or Limited Series

•***Daredevil*** (Marvel)
•***Local*** (Oni)
•***The Spirit*** (DC)
•***Umbra*** (Image)
•***Walt Disney's Comics & Stories*** (Gemstone)

Best Syndicated Strip or Panel

•***Antiques: The Comic Strip,*** *J.C. Vaughan, Brendan Fraim, & Brian Fraim*
•***Doonesbury,*** *Garry Trudeau*
•***The K Chronicles,*** *Keith Knight*
•***Maakies,*** *Tony Millionaire*
•***Mutts,*** *Patrick McDonnell*

Best Anthology

•***The Best American Comics*** (Houghton Mifflin)
•***Flight Volume Three*** (Ballantine)
•***Hotwire Comix & Capers*** (Fantagraphics)
•***Mome*** (Fantagraphics)
•***Walt Disney's Comics & Stories*** (Gemstone)

Best Graphic Album—Original

•***American Born Chinese,*** *Gene Luen Yang* (First Second)
•***Billy Hazelnuts,*** *Tony Millionaire* (Fantagraphics)
•***Fun Home: A Family TragiComic,*** *Alison Bechdel* (Houghton Mifflin)
•***Pride of Baghdad,*** *Brian K. Vaughan & Niko Henrichon* (DC/Vertigo)
•***Scott Pilgrim & The Infinite Sadness,*** *Bryan Lee O'Malley* (Oni)

Best Graphic Album (Previously Published)

•***Absolute DC: The New Frontier*** (DC)
•***Castle Waiting*** (Fantagraphics)
•***EC Archives: Weird Science*** (Gemstone)
•***Ghost of Hoppers*** (Fantagraphics)
•***Polly & The Pirates*** (Oni)

Best Single Issue or Story

•***Civil War #1*** (Marvel)
•***Fun Home: A Family TragiComic*** (Houghton Mifflin)
•***Ganges #1*** (Fantagraphics)
•***Mom's Cancer*** (Abrams)
•***Pride of Baghdad*** (DC/Vertigo)
•***Schizo #4*** (Fantagraphics)
•***Solo #11*** (DC)

Best American Edition of Foreign Material

•***Abandon the Old in Tokyo,*** *Yoshihiro Tatsumi* (Drawn & Quarterly)
•***Kampung Boy,*** *Lat* (First Second)
•***Klezmer Book One—Talles of the Wild East,*** *Joann Sfar* (First Second)
•***Moomin,*** *Tove Jansson* (Drawn & Quarterly)
•***Ode to Kirihito,*** *Osamu Tezuka* (Vertical)

Best Online Comics Work

•***American Elf,*** *James Kochalka*
•***The Chelation Kid,*** *Robert Tinnell & Craig A. Taillefer*
•***Girl Genius,*** *Phil & Kaja Foglio*
•***Perry Bible Fellowship,*** *Nicholas Gurewitch*
•***PVP,*** *Scott Kurtz*

Special Award for Excellence in Presentation

•***Absolute Sandman Volume One*** (DC/Vertigo)
•***Cartoon America: Comic Art in the Library of Congress*** (Abrams)
•***EC Archives: Weird Science & Shock SuspenStories*** (Gemstone)
•***The Life & Times of Scrooge McDuck Companion*** (Gemstone)
•***Lost Girls*** (Top Shelf)
•***Popeye: I Yam What I Yam*** (Fantagraphics)

Best Domestic Reprint Project

•***Complete Chester Gould's Dick Tracy*** (IDW)
•***Complete Peanuts*** (Fantagraphics)
•***EC Archives*** (Gemstone)
•***Popeye: I Yam What I Yam*** (Fantagraphics)
•***Walt & Skeezix*** (Drawn & Quarterly)

Special Award for Humor in Comics

•*Evan Dorkin,* ***Dork*** (SLG)
•*Michael Kupperman,* ***Tales Designed to Thrizzle*** (Fantagraphics)
•*Bryan Lee O'Malley,* ***Scott Pilgrim & the Infinite Sadness*** (Oni)
•*Don Piraro,* ***Bizarro*** (King Features)
•*Don Rosa,* ***Uncle Scrooge*** (Gemstone)

Best Biographical, Historical, or Journalistic Presentation

•***Art Out of Time: Unknown Comic Visionaries 1900-1969*** (Abrams)
•***Comic Art*** (Buenaventura Press)
•***The Comics Journal*** (Fantagraphics)
•***Making Comics,*** HarperCollins
•***The Overstreet Comic Book Price Guide*** (Gemstone)

The winners will be announced at the convention on the evening of September 8th—and you'll read the results in *CSN* once they're made public. Meanwhile, here's a great list of some of the year's best reading, for those of you who'd like to sample all the works in order to predict the winners!

July's Top Twenty Comics

ANITA BLAKE VAMPIRE HUNTER: FIRST DEATH #1

Laurell K. Hamilton & Jonathon Green (W); Wellington Alves (A)

(Marvel/Dabel Brothers MAY072172 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Travel back into the past to get a look at Anita Blake's life one year before the events of ***Guilty Pleasures*** in this original-to-comics limited series.

Why Should You Care?

Anita Blake's creator *Laurell K. Hamilton* joins in the comic book fun, providing an original story produced just for this comic chronicling the first meeting of Anita and Jean-Claude and a very early encounter with Edward.

ASTOUNDING WOLF-MAN #2

Robert Kirkman (W); Jason Howard (A)

(Image MAY071843 $2.99)

ASTOUNDING WOLF-MAN DIRECTORS CUT #1

Robert Kirkman (W); Jason Howard (A)

(Image MAY071844 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

The lycanthropic Gary Hampton may not have wanted his newly acquired powers... but now that he has them, it's up to him to find a way to use them for good, not evil. But how will the public react to a modern-day wolf-man?

Why Should You Care?

In series like ***Invincible*** and ***Walking Dead,*** creator *Robert Kirkman* has explored the lives of characters thrust into incredible situations; now Kirkman brings his keen sense of characterization and drama to play in this story of a modern man fallen victim to a monstrous transformation. (And for those of you who missed out on the Free Comic Book Day premiere, it's being offered, with bonus material, in a Director's Cut.)

CLUBBING

Andi Watson (W); Josh Howard (A)

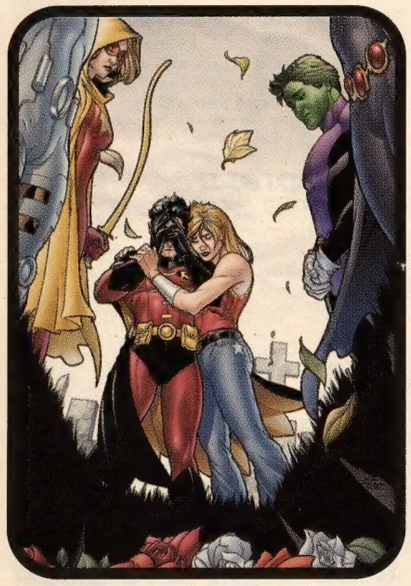
(Minx/DC APR070257 $9.99)

What's the Scoop?

A Goth girl's nightclubbing excesses leads to a fate worse than death: she's exiled at her grandparents' for the summer, where she must spend her time at their stuffy country club. But things get much less boring when the golf course becomes a backdrop for a murder mystery and goth-out-of-her-element Lottie becomes a black-clad Nancy Drew.

Why Should You Care?

Andi Watson joins with ***Dead@17*** artist *Josh Howard* for this clever, energetic, quirky character-driven mystery.



COUNTDOWN #43

Paul Dini & Others (W); Keith Giffen & Others (A)

(DC MAY070125 $2.99)

COUNTDOWN #42

Paul Dini & Others (W); Keith Giffen & Others (A)

(DC MAY070126 $2.99)

COUNTDOWN #41

Paul Dini & Others (W); Keith Giffen & Others (A)

(DC MAY070127 $2.99)

COUNTDOWN #40

Paul Dini & Others (W); Keith Giffen & Others (A)

(DC MAY070128 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

The search for Ray Palmer takes a turn towards "nano nano" as the trail leads into the Nanoverse. Meanwhile, back in the Big World, the Suicide Squad moves into the spotlight, and the current Atom plays a larger part.

Why Should You Care?

Story mastermind *Paul Dini* has constructed a complex DCU-spanning story that explores the newly-recreated multiverses... just as a force seems intent on making them a little less "multi"! This is *the* book for DC fans—pretty much everything ties in to this core-continuity weekly drama!

DOKTOR SLEEPLESS #1

Warren Ellis (W); Ivan Rodriguez (A)

(Avatar MAY073225 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

A young technological genius reinvents himself as Doktor Sleepless and *voila,* the classic Mad Scientist is reborn in this near-future SF drama.

Why Should You Care?

Warren Ellis, who has proven his SF skills with such projects as ***Transmetropolitan*** and ***Ministry of Space,*** launches his newest SF project in conjunction with Avatar—and this just may be the book that helps put them in the big leagues.

FAKER #1

Mike Carey (W); Jock (A)

(Vertigo/DC MAY070228 $2.99

What's the Scoop?

While a college freshman is haunted by a series of suppressed memories, her best friend has become an un-person who no longer exists on the college's computers. Thus begins a tale that soon descends into deceit and conspiracy, filled with ruthless characters and hidden agendas.

Why Should You Care?

Mike Carey delivers a twist-filled tale targeted at fans of unpredictable ensemble-cast melodramas like ***Lost*** and ***Traveler.***

FIRST BORN #1

Ron Marz (W); Stjepan Sejic (A)

(Image MAY071890 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

Sara Pezzini's baby is due very soon... and Agents of the Angelus happen to be looking for a new host. First, though, they want mob boss Jackie Estacado out of the way—and that means that there's a war a'coming between the forces of Dark and Light.

Why Should You Care?

Ron Marz shakes up Top Cow's core titles with this summer event storyline that's a must-read for anyone who has enjoyed ***Witchblade*** or ***The Darkness.***

FLASH: THE FASTEST MAN ALIVE #14

Marc Guggenheim (W); Tony Daniel & Art Thibert (A)

(DC MAY070162 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

The events of ***Flash—The Fastest Man Alive #13*** have shaken up the world of the Flash in ways that *no one* expected... and the ramifications of that story continue in this issue.

Why Should You Care?

Marc Guggenheim delivers one of the most unexpected Flash tales of all time in this story arc that takes the Fastest Man Alive in a bold new direction.

HALO: UPRISING #1

Brian Bendis (W); Alex Maleev (A)

(Marvel MAY072085 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

The Master Chief is the star of this limited series that pits him against Covenant forces, while the Covenant embarks on a quest for an ancient relic of untold power and value.

Why Should You Care?

A year after the phenomenal success of the ***Halo*** graphic novel, Marvel and Bungie reunite for this miniseries that picks up from the conclusion of ***Halo 2***—and it's only the beginning of a line of comic book projects set in the world of the hit videogame.

JUNGLE GIRL #0

Frank Cho & Doug Murray (W); Adriano Batista (A)

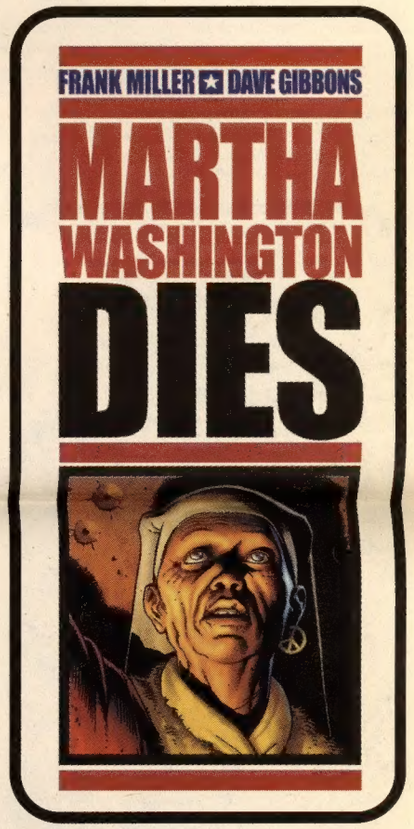
(Dynamite MAY073327 25¢)

What's the Scoop?

A sexy scantily-clad jungle-dwelling femme fatale. A lost island. Pirates. Dinosaurs. What more could any adventure-fiction fan ask for?

Why Should You Care?

Frank Cho, the man responsible for that delightful ***Shanna the She-Devil*** miniseries a couple of years back, revisits the verdant wilds with a new series that introduces Jana of the Jungle, a heroine who'd be right at home in any *Edgar Rice Burroughs* tale. And while Cho isn't supplying the interior art (although he *is* doing covers), *Adriano Batista* captures the sexiness and energy of Cho's work.



MARTHA WASHINGTON DIES

Frank Miller (W); Dave Gibbons & Angus McKie (A)

(Dark Horse MAY070013 $3.50)

What's the Scoop?

A one-hundred-year-old Martha Washington engages in her final battle—and finally sees the truth—in the final chapter of her long-running saga.

Why Should You Care?

A pair of comic legends reunite for a surprising tale that brings Martha Washington's story to a moving close.

MOUSE GUARD: WINTER 1152 #1

David Petersen (W/A)

(Archaia MAY073192 $3.50)

What's the Scoop?

The bleak winter of 1152 brings the threat of famine to the Mouse Guard as Saxon, Kenzie, Lieam, and Sadie—led by Celanewe—try to improve relations between the mouse cities and the guard.

Why Should You Care?

David Petersen's surprise hit of 2006 returns in a new limited series blending historical adventure and anthropomorphic fantasy.

NEW AVENGERS/ TRANSFORMERS #1

Stuart Moore (W); Tyler Kirkham (A)

(Marvel MAY072146 $2.99; also available in a signed edition (MAY073434 $19.99))

What's the Scoop?

So what could possibly bring together the Earth's Mightiest Heroes and the Autobots? Well, howsabout the combined threat of the Decpticons and Doctor Doom!

Why Should You Care?

Stuart Moore & Tyler Kirkham bring together Wolverine, Spider-Man, Megatron, and Optimus Prime in a four-part crossover tale co-produced with IDW... and it'll be in comic shops just in time to ride the summer time ***Transformers*** wave!

NEXUS #99: SPACE OPERA ACT 1 OF 4

Mike Baron (W); Steve Rude (A)

(Rude Dude MAY073691 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

With Ylum on the brink of disastrous religious war, Nexus hopes to take a break from the conflict to send the birth of his son... but for his enemies, the impending birth provides one more opportunity to strike back at Nexus and those he loves.

Why Should You Care?

We never thought we'd see it, but it's here at last: the reunion of *Mike Baron* and *Steve Rude*, who continue the tale that only they could tell!

ORDER #1

Matt Fraction (W); Barry Kitson (A)

(Marvel MAY072110 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

Meet a group of heroes who have everything going for them: fame, success, super-powers, celebrity... but they're about to learn how fleeting it all can be. This isn't the FF or the Avengers: these heroes' moments in the spotlight are destined to be brief, and there are always eager replacements waiting in the wings.

Why Should You Care?

Matt Fraction & Barry Kitson present a super-team that's organized more like a sports franchise in this surprising series that offers an intriguing twist on the supergroup concept.

PROGRAMME #1

Peter Milligan (W); C.P. Smith (A)

(WildStorm/DC MAY070209 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

Conventional warfare seems *so* 20th Century when a new weapon of mass destruction is unleashed... a "weapon" with super-powers.

Why Should You Care?

Super-beings as tools of war? And they're targeting the US? *Peter Milligan & C.P. Smith* take modern war to a new level in this provocative WildStorm series.

STAR TREK: YEAR FOUR #1

David Tischman (W); Kelsey Shannon (A)

(IDW MAY073530 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Captain Kirk, Mister Spock, and the crew of the Enterprise continue their five-year mission in this original series that picks up where the original NBC three-season run left off almost forty years ago.

Why Should You Care?

The Next Generation, Deep Space Nine, Voyager, Enterprise... they're all important parts of the ***Star Trek*** mythos, but the *real* ***Trek*** is the original, and that's the one that *David Tischman & Kelsey Shannon* relaunch in this series that faithfully captures the sense of wonder of *Gene Roddenberry's* creation.

STOP FORGETTING TO REMEMBER GN

Peter Kuper (W/A)

(Ballantine APR073469 $19.95)

What's the Scoop?

Witness crucial events in the life of cartoonist Walter Kurtz in an offbeat "autobiography" by *Peter Kuper.*

Why Should You Care?

Kuper mixes self-deprecating humor, intriguing insights, and introspective analysis in this tale of one man's struggle to find personal and creative success.

THOR #1

J. Michael Straczynski (W); Olivier Coipel (A)

(Marvel MAY072156 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

The God of Thunder returns... and he's not a cyborg, he's not a clone, he's not an imitator—he's the Real Norse Deal.

Why Should You Care?

After *far* too long an absence, one of Marvel's core founding series returns, complete with his cane-carrying human alter ego and all the mythological trappings. It's about time!

WORLD WAR HULK #2

GREG PAK (W); JOHN ROMITA JR. (A)

(Marvel MAY072119 $3.99)

INCREDIBLE HULK #108

GREG PAK (W); CARLOS PAGULAYAN (A)

(Marvel MAY072122 $2.99)

WORLD WAR HULK: GAMMA CORPS #1

Frank Tieri (W); Carlos Ferreira (A)

(Marvel MAY072123 $2.99; also available in a signed edition (MAY073437 $19.99))

What's the Scoop?

The War escalates as Hulk and his combat force of Warbound gladiators begin their assault on Manhattan. Meanwhile, the EArth is assembling its own strike force of gamma-irradiated warriors... while a teenage genius assembles a group of non-gamma-powered heroes to fight alongside the Hulk. Who'd have thought a smash-fest could get this complicated?

Why Should You Care?

If you thought this war was going to be "green monster versus everyone," it's time to re-think. Obviously Marvel has some surprises in store—and neither Marvel's heroes nor readers can be sure what's coming next!

Check 'Em Out: Books You *Should* Be Reading

ACTION PHILOSOPHERS #9

(Evil Twin MAY073442 $2.95)

Bad news for those who've already discovered this delightfully irreverent and informative series: this is the final issue. But as a sort of going away gift to their readers, *Fred Van Lente & Ryan Dunlavey* are spotlighting as many thinkers as they can cram into one 32-page comic!

GIRL GENIUS VOL 6 HC

(Studio Foglio MAY073135 $39.95)

GIRL GENIUS VOL 6 SC

(Studio Foglio MAY073134 $21.95)

Phil & Kaja Foglio and *Cheyenne Wright* present a new installment in the ongoing steampunk saga of Agatha Heterodyne, intrepid heroine. No one does retro like the Foglios!

GRENDEL: BEHOLD THE DEVIL #0

(Dark Horse MAY070012 50¢)

There's an all-new Hunter Rose series coming later this year—and you can learn all about it here. Not only does this 16-page comic include an original prologue to the series, it also features an extensive conversation with *Matt Wagner* about his long-awaited return to the saga of the original Grendel....

HARRY HARLOW & THE SCIENCE OF LOVE GN

(GT Labs MAY073507 $11.95)

Jim Ottaviani blends science and art once again with this fascinating graphic novel focusing on the man who proved the psychological power of love and affection. No other comics creator can make science more fascinating and more human than Ottaviani.

INCREDIBLE CHANGE BOTS GN

(Top Shelf MAY073774 $15.00)

Jeffrey Brown presents a loving, personal paean to Transformers and other changing robot toys. Brown has quickly become one of the most popular indy creators working today—and this work offers one more reason why!

NICOLAS CAGE'S VOODOO CHILD

(Virgin MAY073807 $2.99)

Cinematic star *Nicolas Cage* presents a voodoo saga that spans a century and a half, from pre-Civil War to post-Katrina, with this story of mysterious murders in devastated New Orleans.

Collected Cool: July's Best Reprint Volumes

AMAZING TRANSFORMATIONS OF JIMMY OLSEN TP

(DC APR070178 $14.99)

Paul Dini did his homework when he spotlighted a strangely powered Jimmy Olsen in the pages of ***Countdown***—and now DC shares the original tales with today's readers in this collection of stories tarring Elastic Lad, the Wolf-Man of Metropolis, the Human Porcupine, Turtle Olsen, and more!

ANITA BLAKE VAMPIRE HUNTER: GUILTY PLEASURES VOL 1 HC

(DBPro/Marvel APR072351 $19.99)

Not only will fans get the first six issues of the Dabel Brothers' compelling adaptation of the *Laurell K. Hamilton* novel, they'll also enjoy an original short story featuring Anita and Dolph, written especially for the hardcover by Hamilton herself!

COMPLETE TERRY & THE PIRATES VOL 1 1934-1936 HC

(IDW MAY073541 $49.99)

Long before Logan ever came up with that whole Patch thing, Terry was venturing across the South Pacific in this groundbreaking comic strip. Now IDW kicks off a collection of the entire series beginning with this volume that features more than 800 consecutive strips.

HOOD PREMIERE HC

(Marvel MAY072183 $19.99)

Meet Marvel's rising super-villain kingpin in this largely-overlooked series by *Brian K. Vaughan & Kyle Hotz.*

SHOWCASE PRESENTS BATGIRL VOL 1 TP

(DC APR070213 $16.99)

Featuring 500+ pages of classic Batgirl Silver Age tales—beginning with the first comic book appearance of the character inspired by the ABC-TV show!

SHOWCASE PRESENTS MARTIAN MANHUNTER VOL 1 TP

(DC APR070214 $16.99)

Featuring 500+ pages of the earliest J'Onn J'Onzz adventures from the dawn of the Silver Age—in fact, there are some who proclaim the Martian Manhunter's introduction in 1955 as the *true* beginning of the Silver Age!

FYI: Great Additions to Your Reference Library

ANDRU AND ESPOSITO: PARTNERS FOR LIFE SC

(Hermes JUN073629 $29.99)

The lives and careers of one of comics' most distinctive illustration teams is chronicled in this fascinating book co-produced by *Mike Esposito* himself!

COMICS INTROSPECTIVE VOL 1: PETER BAGGE SC

(TwoMorrows MAY073779 $16.95)

TwoMorrows, best known for their outstanding publications focusing on the Golden and Silver Ages, turns their attention to contemporary indy creators with this new publication—and they begin by spotlighting acclaimed humorist *Peter Bagge.*

COMICS JOURNAL #285

(Fantagraphics MAY073449 $11.95)

DC: The New Frontier and ***Spirit*** maestro *Darwyn Cooke* is spotlighted.

DISGUISED AS CLARK KENT: JEWS COMICS CREATION OF SUPERHERO HC

(Continuum MAY073973 $24.95)

Danny Fingeroth explores the influence of Jewish creators and Jewish consciousness on the development of American comics.

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF COMIC BOOK HEROES VOL 2: WONDER WOMAN

(DC APR070221 $19.99)

DC reissues this long-out-of-print reference volume by *Michael Fleischer.*

MANGA COMPLETE GUIDE

(Del Rey APR074200 $18.95)

Jason Thompson offers a handy reference guide to manga that includes information and reviews of more than 900 manga series.

MARVEL THEN AND NOW: EVENING WITH STAN LEE & JOE QUESADA DVD

(Hero Initiative MAY073514 $29.99)

Special DVD presentation of a memorable life appearance by *Stan Lee, Joe Quesada* and *Kevin Smith,* together on stage for the first time to raise money for the Hero Initiative charity that raises funds to assist veteran comic creators who never had pensions or other benefits that most of us take for granted.

Hot Commodities: July's Hottest Merchandising & Collectibles

BATMAN BLACK AND WHITE ALEX ROSS STATUE

(DC Direct DEC060325 $59.99)

Designed by *Alex Ross,* sculpted by *Karen Palinko.*

CLASSIC DC CHARACTER #3: WONDER WOMAN STATUE

(Dark Horse JAN070102 $49.99)

Ultra-limited syroco-styled statue of Golden Age Wonder Woman, packaged in collectible tin.

CLASSIC PEANUTS CHARACTER #8: WOODSTOCK STATUE

(Dark Horse MAR070083 $39.95)

The latest in Dark Horse's Peanuts-inspired syroco-styled sculpture series, packed in a collector's tin.

MARVEL MILESTONES ZOMBIE SPIDER-MAN & MJ STATUE

(Diamond Select MAR073017 $125.00)

Spidey and Mary Jane get zombified in this offbeat statue.

SUPERMAN/BATMAN WORLDS FINEST BOOKENDS

(DC Direct DEC060312 $295.00)

Steve Rude supplies the designs for this striking set of bookends featuring comics' most famous superheroes.

WOMEN OF THE DC UNIVERSE BATGIRL BUST

(DC Direct OCT060315 $45.00)

Designed by *Adam Hughes,* sculpted by *John G. Mathews.*

FRANK CHO'S
JUNGLE GIRL
CHO
FRANK CHO'S JUNGLE GIRL #1 AND #2
IN STORES AUGUST!
PLOT & COVERS:
FRANK CHO
SCRIPTS BY:
DOUG MURRAY
ART & ALTERNATE COVERS BY:
ADRIANO BATISTA
IN STORES SEPTEMBER!
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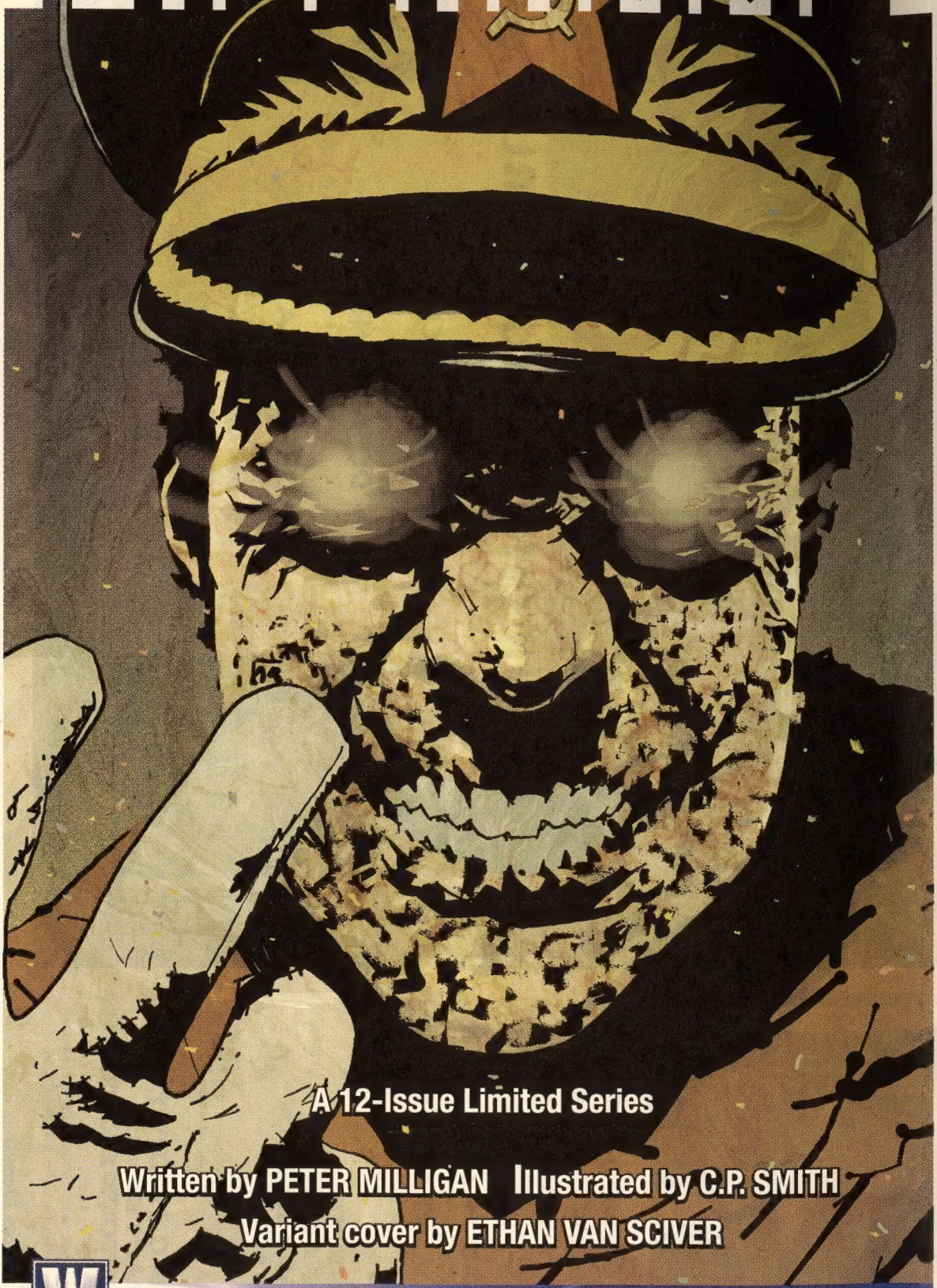
The Cold War might have ended... but not all the weapons were accounted for!

THE PROGRAMME



A 12-Issue Limited Series

Written by PETER MILLIGAN Illustrated by C.P. SMITH

Variant cover by ETHAN VAN SCIVER

WS™ wildstorm.com

JULY 2007

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